



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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For immediate release

1. Grundy Center slow to report wastewater bypass caused by plugged pump

**GRUNDY CENTER SLOW TO REPORT WASTEWATER BYPASS
CAUSED BY PLUGGED PUMP**

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GRUNDY CENTER — A mechanical failure sent about 54,000 gallons of untreated wastewater into Black Hawk Creek near Grundy Center Tuesday and Wednesday.

After a sewage pump plugged and a remaining pump could not keep up with the flow, the City of Grundy Center bypassed its treatment plant and sent wastewater from its storm flow retention basin to the creek.

The bypass began Tuesday at 4 p.m. and stopped at 1 a.m. Wednesday, but the city did not report the bypass to the DNR until Thursday morning. Facilities are required to report bypasses caused by mechanical failures to the DNR within 12 hours of onset or discovery. Bypasses stemming from precipitation events do not need to be reported immediately, but must be included on the facility's monthly operating report to the DNR.

The DNR will issue a notice of violation for failure to timely report the bypass.